

Dutch Tilt

Always look forward but don't always look straight.

Horizontal lines lend a static, calm feel to a photograph. While vertical lines often suggest permanence and stability. Both are good traits. To introduce a feeling drama, movement or uncertainty, try tilting your camera. This is known as the *Dutch Tilt* technique sometimes used (and sometimes overused) in movies.

Tilting, even if just slightly, tends to increase the perspective of your scene. You simply tilt the camera as you take the shot. The Dutch Tilt can be very effective though it doesn't suit every shot. What's more is the viewer of your images will spend more time looking at the photo because the tilt is unexpected.

It is a strange angle for your audience to view from, but the tilt will certainly get a viewers attention as they quickly have to figure out why they are looking at the scene from a particular and odd angle. The viewer will know when something is wrong, when something is not quite right.



The Dutch Tilt can be used for dramatic effect and can be very powerful visually and emotionally to your audience. The tilt helps to portray unease, disorientation, frantic or desperate action, intoxication, madness, anger etc.... A Dutch Angle (tilt) is a classic cinematic technique to create this unease in the mind of the viewer.

When it comes to photo composition and storytelling, Dutch Tilt is a fun element and technique to use. In fact, it is unexpected. Included in the next pages are examples of

Dutch Tilt so you can understand the value of incorporating this technique in your own photographs.

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